

from thirty-six to forty-eight hours. A few drops of the perchloride of iron mixed with the urine of patients treated with the drug cause at once a red coloration, which is very characteristic.

7. Huchard has not yet employed antipyrin in typhoid fever, but, according to foreign authors, it is necessary to employ doses of from 75 to 91 grains daily (30 grains at the interval of an hour, and 15 or 30 the third hour). Under the influence of these doses the reduction of temperature is, for the first hour, a minimum, 1.8° F., and a maximum of 3.6° , and continues to fall until the seventh or eighth hour. Frequently at the fifteenth or sixteenth hour rises again about 1.8° , and again falls regularly. This mild rise of temperature has been noticed also by us during the action of antipyrin upon the fever of phthisis.

8. In typhoid fever, doses of from 90 to 120 grains, directed by some writers, appear to us too large, since they bring on a temperature abnormally low. In cases recorded by P. Snyers, seven or eight hours after the administration of the drug there was, in nine cases, a temperature below 96.8° ; in ten, below 95° ; in four, below 93.1° ; and in one, below 91.4° .

Employment of Hydrochlorate of Cocaine in Obstetrics.

Dr. ALPHONSE HERRGOTT, after a comparative study of many reports concerning the use of hydrochlorate of cocaine in obstetrics, and after numerous experiments of his own, in which the effects of the drug were carefully noted, reaches the following practical conclusions as to its value:—

1. Sensibility to pain was always very markedly diminished. Only moderate pain was felt, which was almost *nil* in superficial parts and much diminished in the deeper tissues.

2 Cocaine also entirely anaesthetizes an inflamed mucous membrane, as is shown by its effects in vulvitis and acute gonorrhœal vaginitis.

3. Reflex vaginal excitation is diminished by application of the drug.

The preceding effects having been noted, the general indications for the use of cocaine may be summarized as follows:—

1. *To produce anaesthesia.*—*a.* Before extensive cauterization of the vulvar or vaginal mucous membrane, or before the application of caustic, or concentrated solutions of corrosive sublimate.

b. Before the removal of small superficial vegetations of the vulvar mucous membrane: for example, in condylomata or caruncles of the urethra.

c. In excitable patients, in cauterization of the uterine neck or previous to the use of the curette in the uterine cavity.

2. *To diminish reflex excitement.*—*a.* In case of temporary vaginismus, before the touch, or introduction of a vaginal speculum, or even by the patient herself before coitus.

b. In case of spasm of the rectum and anus occasioned by fissure, either for operative procedures without general anaesthesia, or for the relief of pain during defecation.—*Annales de Gynécologie et d'Obstétrique*, Feb. 1885.

Cerebral Symptoms from Subcutaneous Injection of Hydrochlorate of Cocaine.

At a recent meeting of the *Société de Thérapeutique*, M. DUJARDIN-BEAUMETZ called attention to an accident which may result from the subcutaneous injection of hydrochlorate of cocaine.

The chief of his laboratory after such injection experienced a feeling of syncope and two similar cases have also been observed by him. Another patient experienced strange sensations, along with cerebral excitement.

The degree of concentration of the solution seemed to have no influence upon its action. Dujardin-Beaumetz attributes the peculiar effects observed, to cerebral anæmia, since they were not noticeable when the patient was reclining when the injection was administered.—*Gazette Hebdomadaire de Méd. et de Chirurg.*, Feb. 6, 1885.

—
Thallin as an Antipyretic.

Dr. C. ALEXANDER, after carefully observing the effect of thallin in reducing temperature, states the following in reference to its action. In almost all instances, the pulse-rate diminishes in frequency along with the lowering of temperature, after the administration of thallin or its salts.

The pulse-rate is, however, not markedly influenced as the temperature, and almost never is reduced to normal; sometimes it remains unaffected, but no unfavorable cardiac symptoms ever follow the use of the drug.

In the greater number of cases lowering of temperature is accompanied by general perspiration. Seldom indeed was perspiration entirely absent, and was not excessive except only in a single case of phthisis.

The antipyretic effect of the drug is observed also in those cases in which perspiration is absent.

The duration of the abatement of temperature, caused by a single dose of 4 grains of thallin, is short, seldom lasting more than four, and usually but two or three hours. A second dose again reduces the temperature to normal; but in from three to five, and sometimes even in two hours, it once more begins to rise.

When the drug is discontinued, the temperature returns to its former height within two to four hours.—*Centralbl. für Klin. Med.*, Feb. 7, 1885.

—
Therapeutics and Action of Euphorbia Pilulifera.

MARSET summarizes the action and therapeutics of *Euphorbia pilulifera* as follows:—

1. The active principle of *Euphorbia pilulifera* is soluble in water and dilute alcohol, insoluble, or nearly so in ether, chloroform, sulphide of carbon and oil of turpentine.

2. It is toxic in weak doses to the small animals, which it kills by arresting respiration and stopping the pulsations of the heart, which are at first accelerating, but gradually cease under its influence.

3. Its effects are not cumulative.

4. It appears to act directly upon the cardiac and respiratory centres, to which its influence is limited.

5. It appears to be eliminated by the liver.

6. Locally, it is without action upon the skin and mucous membranes, except upon the gastric mucous membrane, which it irritates.

7. It gives good results in attacks of dyspnoea caused by asthma, emphysema, or chronic bronchitis in abundant watery solution, taken preferably immediately before meals.

The aqueous or alcoholic extract is a good preparation. A grain daily is the maximum dose employed, and frequently five-sixths of a grain have produced marked results.—*L'Abeille Médicale*, Jan. 26, 1885.

—
New Apparatus for Transfusion of Blood.

Dr. VLEMINCKX attributes the success of the operation performed by him to the perfection of the apparatus employed, a description of which is given in detail: